

1/1c  
PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification 7 :</b> <b>H04B 7/185, 7/204</b>		<b>A1</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 00/49734</b> <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> <b>24 August 2000 (24.08.00)</b>
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> <b>PCT/GB00/00591</b>		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> <b>JP, US.</b>	
<b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> <b>18 February 2000 (18.02.00)</b>		<b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i>	
<b>(30) Priority Data:</b> <b>99301195.6 18 February 1999 (18.02.99) EP</b>			
<b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> ICO SERVICES LIMITED [GB/GB]; 1 Queen Caroline Street, London W6 9BN (GB).			
<b>(72) Inventor; and</b> <b>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only):</b> WYRWAS, Richard [GB/GB]; 54 The Mall, Southgate, London N14 6LN (GB).			
<b>(74) Agents:</b> MUSKER, David, Charles et al.; R.G.C. Jenkins & Co., 26 Caxton Street, London SW1H 0RJ (GB).			

**(54) Title:** COMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS AND METHOD

**(57) Abstract**

A method of mitigating interference in a satellite user uplink signal of a satellite mobile communications system which comprises a plurality of non-geostationary orbiting satellites (4) each radiating a beam pattern of multiple beams, comprising: providing overlapping coverage of a region of the Earth which is subject to interference at an interference frequency, by a first beam of a first satellite (4a) and at least a second beam of a second satellite (4b); determining which of said first or said second beam is more peripheral within their respective satellite beam patterns; and controlling communication (e.g. not using) on the more peripheral said beam to limit reception thereby at said interference frequency.